

SUICIDE WROTE APOLOGY

Mails Letter to Coroner, Then Ends His Life.

An apology for committing suicide was mailed to Coroner Knight by Joseph Strasser, of 1823 North 19th street, who killed himself by inhaling gas. The letter from the dead man was received by the Coroner today. Strasser died yesterday at Joseph's Hospital.

The communication evidently was written while Strasser was in a highly nervous frame of mind. It follows:

Dear Sir—I am sorry I have to take this step. My wife deserted me two weeks ago owing to her relations. I have been employed 20 years by one firm, making good wages. I have a nice home and was married 22 years ago. My age is 43.

JOSEPH STRASSNER  
P. S.—Kindly publish this. Strasser's body was claimed today by his wife.

STRIKE SEEMS SURE; REMINGTONS REFUSE TO TREAT WITH MEN

Labor Leaders at Arms Plant Ask American Federation to Provide Organizer to Lead Fight of Workers.

General Walk-out, They Say, Will Affect Every War Material Plant in Country—I. W. W. Leader Starts for Bridgeport to Recruit Followers.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., July 17.—Absolute refusal of the officials of the Remington-U. M. C. Arms Company to meet the committee appointed by the local machinists' union in an effort to discuss the pending general strike, which will, it is believed, ultimately involve all the thousands of employes of companies engaged in the manufacture of munitions in this city, today brought the local labor situation to a crisis.

J. J. Keppler, international vice president of the Machinists' Union, and John A. O'Brien, president of the International Structural Iron Workers' Union, who constituted the committee, announced, following the refusal to meet them, that a general strike of metal workers and probably all allied trades seemed inevitable. Keppler sent to Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, in Washington, a telegram today asking for an organizer to organize all the employes of the Remington plant into a federated union. It was predicted that the strike would ultimately involve not only local workers, but possibly those in New Haven, Bridgeport and other parts of New England.

It was upon conditions surrounding the bricklayers' strike, a little more than six weeks ago, that Major Fenfield based his statement that \$200,000 in money—had been used to cause the bricklayers' strike. He declared today that he would stick to his original statements that German infiltration caused the first strike and were back of the second.

ADMITTED HE WAS APPROACHED. When asked about attempts to bribe him, O'Brien showed a strong disposition to keep out of what is very evidently a hot situation. Finally he consented to tell his story.

"Three days before the bricklayers' strike," he said, "I was approached by a man—whose name I do not recall—who wanted to make some money. I asked him what he meant, and he said that he would make it worth \$200 to me to call a general strike. I refused him."

"The next day near the trolley bridge that goes to the Remington plant, I was approached by two well-dressed men, who offered me \$200,000 and offered me the same amount, \$200,000."

ETTOR SEES FERTILE FIELD. Bridgeport business men, who dread the consequences of the big strike, were very cordial today over the presence here of J. Wellington Ettor, who said he was secretary of the Remington plant. I. W. W. leader, who was tried for murder in connection with the killing of several men in the riots at Lawrence last year.

Broadhead said Ettor was in Danbury, Conn., and believed that unsettled conditions in Bridgeport made this a fertile field for him. He applied to Chief of Police Broadhead and to Mayor Wilson for permission to speak in Bridgeport. He did not get the permission.

In sympathy with the iron workers and the millwrights who have struck at the other Remington plant at Bridgeport, the Remington-U. M. C. Company walked out at noon yesterday. The plant, which was taken over by the Remington Company three months ago, is being fitted out as a plant to make rifle barrels.

Strike May Affect Bethlehem Plant. SOUTH BETHLEHEM, Pa., July 17.—The turning out of strikers at the Bethlehem Steel Company will soon affect some of the employes of the Remington plant at Bridgeport, Conn., according to the Remington Company. It has been learned, making it possible that the brass butts for the shrapnel shells made here; that in the part of the shell which contains the powder and percussion cap. The steel company makes the steel shell and the lead shrapnel bullets, while the Scoville Company, of Connecticut, makes most of the fuses, or heads, of the shrapnel shells.

No clue can be found to the whereabouts of the man who was arrested from him was a letter received by his wife containing some personal effects. It was mailed from the Pennsylvania Railroad terminal in New York.

Merry Mates Enjoy Cabaret—Accused of Stealing Whirlwind. Merry mates were "Bill" Wright and "Joe" Nelson. They got stuck together in their crimes and their pleasures. Too much of both put them in the grasp of the law.

After the custody of the Liberty Bell had been accepted by the exposition directors from Joseph P. Gaffney, representative of the Pennsylvania State Building commission, it will remain during the exhibition. When it reaches the building it will raise the Stars and Stripes over the dome of the building, which will place wreaths of flowers beneath the bell.

At night the bell will be placed in a tent which will be built on each day of the exhibition in the loggia of the building under guard.

Vacation Day Precautions. It is a great annoyance to find yourself away from home and unable to obtain your vacation pay. It is a great relief to find that the vacation pay is being paid to you. It is a great relief to find that the vacation pay is being paid to you.

ORAL UNDERSTANDING

STRIKES NEW NOTE

IN GERMAN DISPUTE

Lansing's Conference With Von Bernstorff Pays Way for Ending of Fruitless Diplomatic Exchanges, Washington Rehearses.

Berlin, by Refraining From Using Submarines Against Neutral Shipping, Could End Controversy—President to Decide Upon Final Action.

WASHINGTON, July 17.—After the encouraging conference between Secretary Lansing and Ambassador von Bernstorff, Washington today awaited the return of President Wilson who holds the key to the German situation.

Secretary Lansing's admission that an "oral" understanding between the two nations is possible is the most reassuring sign since the receipt of the latest German note.

It possibly forecasts the end of the apparently fruitless diplomatic correspondence between Germany and the United States on the question of the resumed submarine warfare and would mean that Germany by her act is to recognize the principle of the freedom of the seas enunciated by this Government.

TO CONSIDER PROBLEM. Indications are the Cabinet will consider the German proposal at its meeting today. Whether the reply of the Government is formal or informal, the Cabinet faces a most important meeting.

Ambassador von Bernstorff's anxiety for the return of President Wilson is an encouraging phase to recent developments. The attitude of the Cabinet members themselves at present is not known, but it is believed that the President will consider the views of his official advisers and then decide upon a course with their approval is deemed likely.

Some officials believe, according to indications, that a third note, if it is sent on the Lusitania tragedy, is an encouraging phase to recent developments. The attitude of the Cabinet members themselves at present is not known, but it is believed that the President will consider the views of his official advisers and then decide upon a course with their approval is deemed likely.

Germany's submarine warfare should be a flat warning that Germany, in principle as well as practice, must accept the position taken by the United States. Other officials are said to be of the opinion that so long as Germany in practice recognizes the justice of this Government's position and does not again resort to the use of submarines, the Lusitania tragedy and its aftermath may be left gradually to work itself out.

TENSION RELAXED. "The case of the Nebraska was discussed at the Lansing-Bernstorff conference, Germany's admission of blame in this instance and her offer to make reparations still somewhat lessened the tension between the two nations. In the middle of the conference, the German Government practically ignored the demand of President Wilson for a disavowal of the Lusitania tragedy and reparations therefor.

However, Germany's evident effort to avoid a repetition of the Lusitania case and her recent caution in conducting submarine warfare is construed as at least recognizing in practice the justice of the American position.

What disposition will be made of the virtual request by Germany that the United States attempt to mediate the differences between England and Germany regarding the use of the seas is problematical. The President is yet to intimate his views on this proposal, which Ambassador von Bernstorff is understood to have urged upon Secretary Lansing.

U. S. AS MEDIATOR. The Ambassador, it is believed proceeds upon the theory that the United States should act as a mediator in the blockade, which interferes with American cargoes, and against Germany's retaliatory submarine warfare, this country may properly offer itself as a mediator and hope for an adjustment of both controversies. This is scheduled as one of the plans for consideration at the Cabinet meeting Tuesday.

The momentous decision of the President and his Cabinet probably will be reached before adjournment Tuesday afternoon. In the event in view of the President's promise of publicity, the nation should know of the decision by the middle of next week.

VANISHED MAN'S COMPANY FORCED INTO BANKRUPTCY. One Member of Berry-Goodwin Company Claims \$11,735.

The mysterious disappearance of Orlando C. Berry, of Hoxborough, after a \$100,000 loan from a Burlington, N. J. bank, was followed yesterday by a petition in bankruptcy against the Berry-Goodwin Company, contractors, of 19 South 4th street. Berry, president of the company, disappeared several weeks ago.

When the board of directors of the company admitted its insolvency the bankruptcy action was taken. John H. Gorman, one of the three petitioning creditors, also presented a claim for \$11,735. The other petitioners are Christina Besold, with a claim for \$600 on promissory notes, and Hutchinson, Johnson & Co., who claim \$384 as an insurance premium. According to counsel, the company's liabilities are \$7,000 and the value of its assets is unknown.

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CITY GUARDSMEN BACK FROM CAMP AT WIL. GREINA

2d Regiment Arrives at Huntingdon St. Station and Marches to Armory.

Third Regiment Detrains at Broad St. Station and First Marches to Broad and Callowhill Headquarters—Officers Praise Good Work.

The 2d Regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania, sun-browned and leg weary after their week's encampment at Camp Schall, Mount Gretna, arrived at the Broad and Huntingdon streets station of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The guardsmen, accompanied with their marching equipment, marched to Broad street and Susquehanna avenue, and at their armory disbanded. The 1st Regiment is expected to arrive shortly after 4 o'clock at Broad and Callowhill streets. The 3d Regiment is expected at Broad street station at about the same time.

With the exception of the tents of the commanding officer and his staff, the field at Mt. Gretna is deserted. When the last regiment of the 1st Brigade entrains these tents, too, will be raised and the officers will depart.

General C. Bow Dougherty will leave the camp by auto.

The 2d Regiment entrained at Colebrook shortly after 9 o'clock. When the guardsmen of this regiment reached Colebrook station at 10 o'clock, the 3d Regiment was leaving camp. The 3d Regiment struck camp last night and bivouacked in shelter tents. Consequently, members of the regiment had little to do this morning except to get into heavy marching order for the march to Colebrook station.

OFFICERS DISCUSS GOOD WORK. With the end of Camp Schall but a few hours away and the troops entrained and ready for a start, officers last night and this morning talked freely of the good work which has been done here during the last week. It was unanimously declared that Camp Schall was the most successful in years, that the men were more orderly, that fewer arrests were made than in other years, and, above all, that less beer and liquor were consumed.

With the exodus of the troops, visitors to Mount Gretna are few and far between. The only strangers there this morning are 18 United States cavalrymen, sent to make arrangements for the cavalry instruction camp, which opens July 24.

LAUNCH OF PORTER'S MAYORALTY BOOM

Citizens' Committee Formally Proclaim His Candidacy at Mass-meeting.

The campaign to place Director Porter in line for the independent mayoralty nomination was formally launched this afternoon at a mass-meeting on City Hall plaza. Director Porter was definitely urged to announce his candidacy.

The various clubs which participated in the mass-meeting assembled at Broad and Arch streets at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Preceded by a band, they marched to the north City Hall plaza, where the demonstration began at 2:30.

The committee in charge of the affair explained today that they were making a deliberate departure from the usual custom of bringing out a candidate at a meeting in the Academy of Music, since they wish it to be understood that the endorsement of Director Porter is distinctly a citizens' movement. Following the meeting today a central committee of citizens to conduct the campaign will be organized. It is also proposed to open headquarters in the central part of the city and to begin at once the work of forming suborganizations in each of the 45 wards.

WOMAN ARRESTS INTRUDER Lures Him to Police Station, Delivering Him to Sergeant.

When William Lacey, of 323 Hamilton street, comes from the House of Correction, whether he went today for a month's sojourn, he will oppose woman suffrage. He was indignantly arrested last night by Mrs. A. C. Castello, of 860 Baring street, when he insisted upon visiting his wife at her home against the order of the Domestic Relations Court.

On Wednesday Lacey was ordered to pay his wife \$20 weekly and refrain from visiting her. On Thursday he called at Mrs. Castello's home, where his wife resides, but Mrs. Lacey was at work and he failed to see her, so he carried off his wife's trunk. He was later pawned. Yesterday he called again and Mrs. Castello ordered him out of the house. When he refused she snatched his hat and went out. He followed. She went to 29th street and Lancaster avenue and as she descended the steps of the police station there he followed. She struck the door she grabbed him, thrust him in ahead of her, marched him to the sergeant's desk and had him "slated." To Sergeant Magistrate Boyle commended the woman and sentenced Lacey.

YOUTHS ESCAPE DROWNING Rescued Half Hour After Their Canoe Overturns in Delaware.

Four youths are pinching themselves today to make sure they are alive and not at the bottom of the Delaware River. Of Tuesday yesterday afternoon they were in their canoe when the wind came up and whipped the waves across the bow of their fragile craft. The canoe upset and all four the next minute were clinging to the overturned bottom.

They were blue with cold and ready to drop off when the customs service motorboat Jennie E. with Captain Stock and Navigation Inspector John J. Crispin Jr. on board, came in sight. The youths were picked up and revived at Wilmington wharf. They are George Givens, 2018 E. street; Harry Behrman, 212 Westmouth street; George Hoch, 122 East Westmont street; and George Greenwood, 2622 Kensington avenue. Their ages are between 15 and 20. They had been in the water half an hour when the Jennie E. arrived.

C. C. Ross Dead. SCRANTON, Pa., July 17.—C. C. Ross, 60-year-old, died today after an illness of several days. His death comes at a time when there are rumors of a general strike in the anthracite district. Mr. Ross was one of the best known men in the anthracite district.

STRUCK AND KILLED BY AUTO

Detectives Looking for "Joy Riders" Who Ran Down Man in Dark.

County Detectives Doran and Gibben, of Camden, are scouring roads leading to the New Jersey seashore resorts today, in a high-power automobile, in an effort to capture a party of "joy riders" from this city, who are believed to be those who ran down and killed Tony Barbieri, of 34 Spruce street, Camden, on the White Horse pike, near Harrington, N. J., early today.

Barbieri and a friend started for the seashore in an automobile late last night. Shortly after 9 o'clock this morning they ran out of gasoline and Barbieri left the car to walk back to a garage in Harrington. He had gone only a short distance when struck by an automobile which was careening along the pike at a high rate of speed.

VARE TO BE CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR, SPLITTING LEADERS, FRIENDS SAY

Conference of Congressman With Gompers Believed to Have Been Preliminary to Announcement He Wants Office.

Refuses to Deny He Will Seek Nomination—Declaration From Chelsea Home Within Three Days, Political Observers Expect.

Congressman William S. Vare will be a candidate for Mayor, and an announcement of his candidacy probably will be made within a few days, according to friends of the Vares in this city, Washington and Atlantic City. His candidacy would mean a bitter fight in the Republican Organization, similar to that of 1911, when factional disputes resulted in the election of Rudolph Blankenship.

The committee in charge of the affair explained today that they were making a deliberate departure from the usual custom of bringing out a candidate at a meeting in the Academy of Music, since they wish it to be understood that the endorsement of Director Porter is distinctly a citizens' movement. Following the meeting today a central committee of citizens to conduct the campaign will be organized. It is also proposed to open headquarters in the central part of the city and to begin at once the work of forming suborganizations in each of the 45 wards.

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STATE TO BUY PIKES TO MAKE ROADS FREE

Appropriation of \$250,000 Available—Sprout Highways Specially Desired—Prices Must Be Right.

HARRISBURG, July 17.—State Highway Commissioner Cunningham has opened negotiations with a number of turnpike companies, including that controlling six miles of the Chester and Darby pike, with the object of securing offers for their purchase by the State Highway Department. The turnpikes selected are the ones considered most important in the Sprout system of highways and it is the intention of the department to acquire these properties so that no turnpikes will exist on State highways.

The appropriation for 1915 and 1916 for the purchase of turnpikes is \$250,000. Commissioner Cunningham believes that it will be possible to make considerable progress in the purchase of these turnpikes if the counties through which they pass furnish the right co-operation and, especially, financial assistance to the State Highway Department in acquiring the properties.

When prices which are regarded as excessive are placed on properties by the turnpike companies, the State Highway Department contemplates either the construction of roads paralleling the turnpikes and connecting with the State highways at each end or diverting the money from their purchase to other counties where a disposition to play fair with the department is manifested. The turnpike companies with which negotiations have been opened are the following:

On Sprout route 192, in Millin County, 5 miles of the West Klahoquillas Valley; on route No. 25, in Millin County, 5.5 miles of the Lewistown and Klahoquillas valley; on route No. 25, in Millin County, 11 miles of the Harrisburg, Carlisle and Chambersburg turnpike; on route No. 156, in Bucks County, 5 miles of the Doylestown and Danboro, and Danboro and Harrisburg turnpikes; on route No. 158, in Lackawanna County, 5 miles of the Houting Brook pike; on route No. 9, in Lackawanna County, 2.7 miles of the Providence and Abington turnpike; on route No. 29, in Centre County, 7 miles of the Centre and Klahoquillas turnpike; on route No. 52, in Cambria County, 5.7 miles of the Davidville and Bens Creek pike; on route No. 130, in Delaware County, 5 miles of the Centre and Darby pike; on route No. 218, in Lancaster County, 12 miles of the Lancaster and Williamstown pike; on route No. 197, in Berks County, 9 miles of the Oley turnpike.

Upon his return to Philadelphia, and later last night, when he reached Atlantic City, Congressman Vare refused to make any statement.

At the shore he called upon City Chairman David H. Lane, but Lane was out. The report is that an announcement of Vare's candidacy would be made within three days, and that it would be made from the Congressman's summer home in Chelsea.

"I must decline to discuss the matter at this time," was the reply. "I cannot discuss that," was the reply.

"Are you a candidate for the Republican nomination for Mayor?"

"I have nothing to say," answered Vare. "I had a friendly chat with Mr. Gompers and that is the only statement I care to make."

The "friendly chat" also concerned Governor Brumbaugh, according to Gompers. He said that Brumbaugh sponsored during the last session of the Pennsylvania Legislature were talked over. It is believed that this part of their talk was a preliminary "feeler" for the labor support for the Brumbaugh presidential boom.

Announcement of the candidacy of Congressman Vare would completely wreck the harmony plans of Republican City Chairman Lane, who has been working hard to have the organization leaders endorse a candidate acceptable to all of them. The only man over whom it has been definitely stated they would split is Congressman Vare.

Senator Vare would not deny that he will be a candidate, although he would not admit it. He was in Philadelphia until noon yesterday, and then quietly went to Washington to hold his conference with Gompers.

"Did your visit to Mr. Gompers have any reference to the Mayoralty situation?" he was asked.

"I cannot discuss that," was the reply.

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60,000 CARRANZA TROOPS CLOSING IN ON GEN. VILLA

Le Truppe di Cadorna Occupano Due Alti Passi Nella Valle Camonica.

Il rapporto del generale Cadorna, pubblicato in Roma oggi, annuncia che le truppe italiane hanno occupato due importanti passi nella Valle Camonica, in un punto dove Garibaldi si rifugiò nel 1808 e resistette agli austriaci.

Nelle Alpi Carniche gli austriaci hanno attaccato le posizioni italiane e si sono avventurati a combattere contro le truppe italiane. Però gli austriaci sono stati respinti e gli italiani hanno anche fatto alcuni prigionieri.

Un fronte dell'Impero in situazione critica. I comandi italiani continuano a occupare le posizioni fortificate austriache e continua l'avanzata metodica, ma necessariamente lenta, delle forze italiane. Un telegramma da Roma, segnala che il lavoro dell'artiglieria italiana è stato di pazienza e di non rapidi risultati, giacché i forti che difendono la frontiera austriaca non sono da essere paragonati a quelli che la Germania aveva ridotti nel Belgio e nella Francia settentrionale.

Il giornale romano "L'idea Nazionale" dice che l'imperatore Francesco Giuseppe aveva fatto un'ammirabile offerta a Garibaldi, che consisteva in un attacco di parossismo d'ira, da cui e' assai poco tempo ago.

Le notizie sulla guerra, in italiano.

U. S. DEPENDS ON 30,000 MEN

Contribute from Page One

Twelve million men are now under arms in Europe, according to the latest estimates.

The United States could raise, it is estimated, after a lapse of months following the declaration of hostilities, a volunteer army of 1,000,000 men. That number would require 30,000 officers to handle it. There is no class of persons in the country who have had the training to fit them for officers.

Beyond million volunteers may be difficult to obtain additional recruits. They back up their contention with historical facts. In the War of the Revolution, according to them, the colonies at the beginning had an army of approximately 60,000 men. It was not until the end of the war that the number of men had increased to 150,000.

The Mexican War was successful, but largely because Mexico was less prepared for the Civil War. It is pointed out, however, that the war started and the large cities were the scenes of numerous drought riots. The Spanish War did not test history shows that the United States is not prepared to meet the emergency of a general strike.

CITY TAKES STEPS. In Philadelphia, to remedy the above conditions, two plans are under foot. One is the formation of a branch of the National Security League here and the other is the introduction of military training in the high schools, as proposed by Dr. Joseph Leidy.

The object of the league is to prepare the nation against attack, and branches have already been established in Boston and Chicago.

The local branch of the league will be organized next Thursday at a meeting in the city club. Men of national prominence are expected to attend.

The plan to establish a branch here was brought about by a visit of E. Woodward Duke, the national secretary, and William H. Clegg, the secretary of the National Security League, who were in Philadelphia in connection with their representative Philadelphia men who are much interested in the work.

General Leidy, who has been in the city for several days, has offered 100 Philadelphia men each contribute a similar amount, has received a strong endorsement from the National Security League, United States Army, stationed at Government Island.

It was reported here today that General Zapata had tried to open negotiations for surrender, but that General Gonzales had refused to grant the southern army any terms.

Argentine Transport Arrives Here. The Argentine Republic transport Tampa arrived here today for a cargo of machinery and several 14-inch guns, which were on the Argentine battleship Moreno.

CHAUFFEUR WHO SUED DR. SHAW NOW IN ARMY OF UNEMPLOYED

Umbrageous Letter From Suffrage Leader's Secretary to Motor Company Results in Dismissal—Driver Wanted to Collect Pay for Teaching Her to Operate Car.

What is hailed by suffragists as a moral victory for Dr. Anna Howard Shaw in her fight for "no taxation without representation."

The letter received today was in reply to a letter sent to the company by Miss Anthony, in which she enclosed a check for the amount of the bill presented by Stillwell.

"I learn, with great surprise, that Mr. Stillwell, without telling Doctor Shaw that he was immediately desirous for the amount, had placed the bill in the hands of a constable for collection."

W. A. Stillwell, the chauffeur in question, has been discharged according to a letter received today by Miss Lucy B. Anthony, Doctor Shaw's secretary at Moylan, from James H. Johnson, president of the company. The check sent by Miss Anthony in payment for Stillwell's services in teaching Doctor Shaw how to operate the car was returned by the company.

Dr. Shaw, who declared in the letter that Stillwell "had no business in the first place to teach Doctor Shaw anything but expense" and that he has "done the company a great injustice in making out this bill, and especially in sending it to the hands of a constable."

Stillwell, as the same constable, Allen C. Mathews, of Media, closed his check book. Dr. Shaw refused to pay certain taxes, suffragists say that the case of the tax may rest similarly with a vic-

tor for Doctor Shaw in her fight for "no taxation without representation."

The letter received today was in